

CANNON BUILDING 861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203 DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

# STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

TELEPHONE: (302) 744-4500 FAX: (302) 739-2711 WEBSITE: WWW.DPR.DELAWARE.GOV

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES: BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Monday, April 4, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Division of Professional Regulation

861 Silver Lake Blvd., Conference Room A Cannon Bldg., Dover, Delaware 19904

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

# **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Marcia Halperin, Professional Member, President

Dr. Steve Eichel, Professional Member, Vice President

Dr. Gary Johnson, Professional Member

Dr. Wesley Bowman, Professional Member

Dr. Rick Brokaw, Professional Member

Eleanor Allione, Public Member, Secretary

Joan McDonough, Public Member

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Andrew Slater, Public Member Lee Wheeler, Public Member

# **DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT**

Catherine Simon, Administrative Specialist II Judy Letterman, Administrative Specialist III Patricia Davis-Oliva, Deputy Attorney General Roger Akin, Chief Hearing Officer

#### OTHERS PRESENT

None

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Halperin called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

## **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Allione, seconded by Dr. Bowman, to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2011 meeting as presented. The motion unanimously carried.

# **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Monitoring - Tamara Perry

No report required.

Monitoring - Terry McCandies

No report required.

# Monitoring – Jeffrie Silverberg

The Board reviewed and accepted a letter from Dr. Silverberg's supervisor, Carl Chenkin, Ph.D., advising the Board that he was doing well. The Board asked that he submit his final report by May 31, 2011.

#### Re-Review of Application to Sit for EPPP Examination

A motion was made by Dr. Eichel, seconded by Dr. Bowman, to propose to deny the application of David Flemmer since he did not provide proof of graduating from an accredited psychological program, based on Section 3508 (a)(1) of the statute. The motion was unanimously carried.

# **Disciplinary Hearings**

The Board granted a continuance for the hearing regarding Kevin Keough, Complaint #26-13-07 after receiving a postponement request from his attorney. The hearing will be rescheduled for May 2, 2011.

The Board will reschedule the hearing regarding Janet Asay, Complaint #26-05-09 for May 2, 2011.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

## Review of Initial Application for Psychologist

The Board reviewed the application of Maria Pitale.

After review, a motion was made by Dr. Brokaw, seconded by Dr. Johnson, to approve Maria Pitale for licensure. The motion was unanimously carried.

# Review of Application to Sit for EPPP Examination

The Board reviewed the psychologist application of Tennille Warren.

After review, a motion was made by Dr. Brokaw, seconded by Ms. Allione, to approve the application of Tennille Warren for licensure, contingent upon passing the EPPP. The motion was unanimously carried.

# Review of Applications for Licensure by Reciprocity

The Board reviewed the psychologist application of Caren DeBernardo.

Board of Examiners of Psychologists Meeting Minutes – April 4, 2011 Page 3

After review, a motion was made by Dr. Eichel, seconded by Ms. Allione, to approve the application of Caren DeBernardo for licensure by reciprocity. The motion was unanimously carried.

The Board reviewed the application of Christina Wattington.

After review, a motion was made by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Brokaw, to approve the application of Christina Wattington for licensure by reciprocity. The motion was unanimously carried.

The Board reviewed the application of Julie Keaveney.

After review, a motion was made by Dr. Eichel, seconded by Dr. Johnson, to approve the application of Julie Keaveney for licensure by reciprocity. The motion was unanimously carried.

# **COMPLAINT STATUS**

26-13-07 - Hearing May 2, 2011

26-05-09 - Hearing May 2, 2011

26-07-09 - Open

26-01-10 - Assigned

26-02-10 - Assigned

26-03-10 - Assigned

26-04-10 - Assigned

26-05-10 - Assigned

26-06-10 - Assigned

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board received a letter from David Brewer, President of the Society of Consulting Psychology. He offered their services regarding the laws and practice of General Applied Psychologists.

## OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (DISCUSSION ONLY)

Roger Akin, Chief Hearing Officer for Division of Professional Regulation, explained to the Board the new hearing process that will be in place for complaints which are not related to scope of practice or standard of care. The Division Director and the Chief Hearing Officer will decide which complaints will be handed by the Hearing Officer and which ones will be handled by the Board. This process will decrease the number of hearings that have to go before the Board in the future.

Ms. Davis-Oliva, DAG, will contact Dr. Earl Walker regarding the conditions of his probation so he can proceed now that his appeal has been denied.

Ms. Davis-Oliva, DAG outlined the new proposed House Bill that affects the psychology profession, among others. The Bill proposes legislation that will require automatic

Board of Examiners of Psychologists Meeting Minutes – April 4, 2011 Page 4

revocation of a license if the licensee is convicted of a felony sexual offense. Also, it will require the denial of licensure to any applicant with the same conviction. The Board discussed its concerns that this bill will dissuade licensees from seeking psychological help if they feel they need it, as they will know that their treating psychologist faces possible discipline for not reporting the psychologist seeking help. Also, this raises issues of confidentiality wherein a treating psychologist who treats another licensee could be disciplined for breaking confidentiality by reporting while also facing discipline for not breaking confidentiality and not reporting. After discussion, Ms. Davis-Oliva advised she will write a letter to address the Boards' concerns regarding the new bill, reminding the legislature that licensees already follow a code of ethics as established by the American Psychological Association that requires mandatory reporting, and is incorporated into their enabling statute.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

# **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date is scheduled for May 2, 2011.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. McDonough, to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 a.m. The motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine A. Simon Administrative Specialist II Board of Examiners of Psychologists